

COUNCIL CHAMBERS CITY COUNCIL
CITY HALL - CITY OF LODI
Tuesday, November 14th., 1950

Notes taken of a meeting of the City Council and land owners along the Mokelumne River between Woodbridge and Cherokee Lane (U.S.Highway 99)

Present - from City Council: Councilmen Haskell, Bull, Preszler and Rinn.
from Land Owners : Mrs Clara Mason, Mrs W. S. Jones, Mrs Margaret Devine, Mr J. N. Ballentyne, Mr Harold Kundert, Mr Leland Cook, Mr Allen Sanguinetti, Three Trustees of Woodbridge Irrigation District, Mr Louis Bridge, Mr Herbert F. Putney, Mr Al Borth, Mr E. Mayer, Mr John Benty, Mr James W. Lambert, A Representative of Dougherty Fruit Growers, Mr Raymond E. Mason, Mr Benjamin Bechthold. (Absent were LeMoin Beckman, M.M.Bender and Ethel W. Loveless.)
as advisory to the group, Mr Robert F. Peters of Northern San Joaquin County Mosquito Abatement District and Mr Clifford Gatzert of the staff of Lodi City Planning Commission.

Mr Thurlow A. Haskell presiding:

Chairman Haskell announced that the meeting had been called at the request of the City Council of the City of Lodi to explore the feasibility and ascertain the means by which bottom lands along the Mokelumne River in the vicinity of Lodi could be acquired for park and recreation purposes and soliciting frank expressions of opinion from all concerned. He then requested Mr Gatzert, who had prepared studies of parts of this area, to outline the work done under the direction of the City Planning Commission. Councilman Rinn and City Clerk Blakely spoke briefly in support of the use of these lands for park purposes.

Sherwood Beckman and Elwood Sewart, Directors of Woodbridge Irrigation District emphasized that the District's interest and the purpose for which the District had acquired lands above its diversion dam, was to see that no actions were taken that would disturb the present river channel. That is, that tree lined banks be preserved and no cuts made in the river berm that might weaken it to attack of the river's current and divert the stream to a new course.

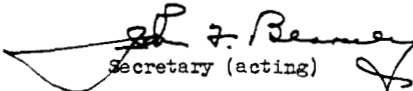
J.N.Ballentyne asked that definite information be obtained as to the effect of separation of riparian lands from uplands on riparian water rights. Robert Rinn stated that he believed this possible but that the City would obtain legal opinion confirming this opinion.

Louis Bridge spoke for a committee of land owners who had met prior to this meeting to discuss its purpose. He asked that the City prepare a definite plan of its proposed improvement. All owners present concurred in this request, stating that this would help them to determine in their own minds, the probable effect of parting with bottom land on the lands retained by them. Some one suggested that the tentative upper boundary line be staked so that the owner could visually ascertain the part of his property to be improved for park purposes.

Allen Sanguinetti spoke of his experience in attempting to farm cleared bottom lands saying that they were of little agricultural value, particularly as they are subject to flooding from releases of East Bay Municipal Utility District, as in the current year.

Robert Peters of the Mosquito Abatement District offered participation of the District Board of Trustees, stating that cooperative work with the District would reduce costs. Clearing for park purposes would cost about 1/5 of clearing for agricultural uses.

Chairman Haskell closed the meeting with a statement that it appeared that the next step would be the preparation of a more or less precised plan for submission to a later meeting and the consideration by the City Council and Planning Commission of piece-meal development of the most accessible properties. Adjournment had at 9:45 P.M.


Secretary (acting)